

Message Text

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72

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 L-03 INT-08 PM-07 EB-11 SCA-01

SCSE-00 H-03 INR-10 DLOS-06 PRS-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 COME-00 DRC-01 /071 W

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R 302133Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8644

UNCLAS MEXICO 8176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MX

SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF SHRIMPBOAT VATICAN

REF: STATE 212291

1. MEXICAN VERSION OF INCIDENT IS THAT VATICAN WAS SURPRISED FRIDAY A.M. OCTOBER 26, APPROXIMATELY THREE MILES FROM SHORE WITH NETS IN THE WATER. WHEN VATICAN NOTICED APPROACH OF MEXICAN PATROL BOAT SHE PULLED UP NETS AND RAN. VATICAN WAS OVERTAKEN AND STOPPED AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 11 MILES FROM SHORE. AT THIS POINT MEXICAN NAVAL COMMANDER AGREE D TO ANCHOR AND WAIT FOR U.S. COAST GUARD PLANE TO VERIFY POSITION. WHEN PLANE ARRIVED AND DETERMINED POSITION AS SOMETHING OVER 13 MILES FROM SHORE MEXICAN COMMANDER DISAGREED STATING THAT METHOD USED TO DETERMINE POSITION FROM AIRCRAFT WAS VERY INACCURATE AND THAT THIS CALCULATIONS GAVE POSITON AS LITTLE OVER 11 MILES FROM SHORE. VATICAN WAS THEN ESCORTED TO TAMPICO.

2. IN MEXICAN NAVAL COMMANDER REPORT WHICH WAS READ TO FISHATT OVER PHONE ON FRIDAY MEXICAN COMMANDER STATED THAT EVEN THOUGH HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO APPREHEND FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS IN THE 10-12 MILE ZONE BUT MERELY TO ASK THEM TO LEAVE, THAT HE BELIEVED THAT IN THIS CASE HIS ACTION WAS JUSTIFIED SINCE HE HAD PURSUED THE VATICAN FROM A POINT MUCH CLOSER TO SHORE.

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3. ON MONDAY, OCT. 29, FISHATT SPOKE WITH RAFAEL VEGA RIVAS,

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FISHERY REGIONS. IN ABSENCE OF MEDINA NERI WHO IS IN WASHINGTON, FINAL DISPOSITION OF THESE CASE WILL BE BY VEGA RIVAS. FISHATT WAS TOLD THAT FINAL DECISION COULD NOT BE MADE UNTIL ALL DOCUMENTS WERE RECEIVED FROM TAMPICO AND THAT THEY STILL LACKED AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY AMERICAN SKIPPER.

4. ON TUESDAY, OCT. 30, PEDRO OROZCO WHO IS REPRESENTING TEXAS SHRIMP ASSOCIATION IN TAMPICO, CALLED TO SAY THAT ALL DOCUMENTATION IS NOW COMPLETE AND THAT HE IS COMING TO MEXICO CITY TOMORROW TO PRESENT U.S. VERSION TO VEGA RIVAS. FISHATT TRYING TO SET UP APPOINTMENT FOR OROZCO WITH VEGA RIVAS.
MCBRIDE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EFIS, MX
To: STATE
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